

BOOK NOTICE

EMMA SHORT AND ALEX GEORGE. 2013. **A Primer of Botanical Latin with Vocabulary**. (ISBN-13: 978-1-107-69375-3, pbk). Cambridge University Press, 32 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10013-2473, U.S.A. (**Orders:** www.cambridge.org, 1-845-353-7500). \$39.99, 304 pp., 102 tables, 21 exercises, index, 6" × 9".

From the publisher: Latin is one of two acceptable languages for describing new plants, and taxonomists must be able to translate earlier texts in Latin. Providing a simple explanation of Latin grammar along with an in-depth vocabulary, this is an indispensable guide for systematic botanists worldwide. All relevant parts of speech are discussed, with accompanying examples as well as worked exercises for translating diagnoses and descriptions to and from Latin. Guidelines for forming specific epithets are also included. The authors cross-reference their grammar to Stearn's *Botanical Latin* and to articles in the *International Code of Nomenclature for Algae, Fungi and Plants*. The comprehensive vocabulary is enhanced with terms from recent glossaries for non-flowering plants – lichens, mosses, algae, fungi and ferns – making this an ideal resource for anyone looking to hone their understanding of Latin grammar and to translate botanical texts from the past 300 years.

EMMA SHORT worked for 5 years at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, UK, on the *Index Kewensis* database and with R.K. Brummitt on *Authors of Plant Names*. She checked Latin for *Australian Systematic Botany* for 18 years, worked as a freelance translator, and has taught courses in Botanical Latin.

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